(b) whether the senior lady employees in the above catering have represented to this effect; if so, what action taken thereon; and

(c) the reasons for not following the seniority in these allotment ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Constitution of Mirchi Board and Cotton Board

3672. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is under Government's consideration to constitute Mirchi Board, Cotton Board and Oilseeds Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal to constitute separate Mirchi Board as Mirchi is covered under Spices Board. There are already Cotton Advisory Board and National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board.

Discrimination in pay scale of workers in F.C.I.

3673. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a discrimination among the workers working under F.C.I. Godowns whose pay and scales and service conditions differ from place to place;

(b) whether it is also a fact that workers are compelled to work under appointed contractor of F.C.I. and are subjected to exploitations and placed under direct payment known as D.P.S.;

(c) whether it is a fact that decasualised worker doing the same nature of jobs are getting full remuneration and un-decasualised workers (DPS) whether are being exploited and placed under Direct Payment System;

(d) if so. whether decasualisation of contract worker of Begusarai. Tilrath etc. would be done; and

(c) if not, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL) : (a) The wage structure of the Food Corporation of India departmentalised workers, working in ports and port-city godowns is governed by the wage structure adopted by the Ministry of Surface Transport for port and dock workers whereas the wage structure of the departmentalised workers working in other godowns of FCI is either decided bilaterally with the concerned Unions or as a result of award by Arbitrator appointed by FCI in consultation with the respective Unions. This resulted in variation in the pay-structure in some regions which has recently been set-right by the Supreme Court.

(b) Contractors engage their own workers. However, FCI is taking all possible measures to ensure that the workers working under contract system are not subjected to any discrimination.

(c) Decasualised workers of FCI are on regular pay scales, being regular employees of the Corporation, whereas workers under Direct Payment System, who are workers of ex-contractors of the FCI, came under the system under bilateral agreement with the concerned Workers' Union. Workers under Direct Payment System are guaranteed minimum earnings if the Management is not in a position to provide them sufficient work. Thus workers under Direct Payment System cannot be compared with regular employees of the Corporation in the matter of remuneration etc.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Labour is examining the report of the Committee, set up for considering abolition or otherwise of the contract labour in the FCI.